

times with and sometimes without Mr. Harriman, assuring me that very grave errors and shortcomings existed in the work of the Interstate Commerce Commission, these being due primarily to the work of the statistician, Mr. Adams. The allegations made were so grave that I had both of you meet certain members of the Commission, on which occasion you stated that you would be able to get the Commission in possession of information, which would practically revolutionize much of the work they were doing, if you were given the chance to have access to their books. The Commission, at my request, gave you such access. You were engaged in the research last spring. When I returned to Washington last fall I heard from both Mr. Harriman and you on different occasions that you had found errors of the gravest and grossest character in the work of the statistician—errors which completely nullified and rendered valueless the work of the whole Commission.

"The charges you had made and were then making were of so grave a character that I did not feel justified in failing to give you every opportunity to substantiate them; for of course there was nothing more important than to find out whether or not the work of the Interstate Commerce Commission was accurate and trustworthy. I endeavored to have Mr. Harriman state to me definitely what the charges were. You admitted that your only knowledge of the matter was from him. I found it almost impossible to pin him down to any definite statement; and

finally, in,
view of the repeated statements of both you
and himself
that only experts could go into the matter, I
appointed
Mr. O. P. Austin to look into the charges. He
reported to
me that after careful examination of the
charges as pre-
sented in the paper of Mr. Harriman, and of
the reply of
Professor Adams, he believed the charges
were without
foundation,

"You and Mr. Harriman, insisted that Mr.
Austin had
erred, and you yourself suggested that I
should have Mr.
Neill and one or more bank examiners
examine your
charges. I summoned Mr. Harriman to meet
me with Mr.*